

Message Text

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FOL MAPUTO 0383 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO GENEVA MAR 29, 1978
REPEATED TO YOU AUOTE

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GENEVA FOR UNDRO

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBQUE APPEALS FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR
FLOOD RELIEF

REF: (A) MAPUTO 094, (B) MAPUTO 379

1, SUMMARY MOZAMBQIE GOVERNMENT HAS APPEALED FOR INTERNATIONAL
ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS FO ZAMBEZI FLOODS. AID IS NEEDED TO
EVACUATE PEOPLE AND TO DELIVER FOOD AND ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES TO
AFFECTED AREAS. EMBASSY NEEDS RECONFIRMATION OF AMBASSADORS
DISASTER ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY END SUMMARY.

2. IN A MEETING MARCH 28 MOZAMBIQUE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT
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MARCELINO DOS SANTOS MADE A FORMAL REQUEST TO UNDP RESDEP
ERIK ZETTERBERG FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO ASSIST FLOOD
RELIEF IN THE ZAMBEZI VALLEY. DOS SANTOS, WHO JUST RETURNED FROM
THE AREA, REPORTED THAT DAMAGE IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE GREATER
THAT FROM 1977 LIMPOPO FLOODS, HE CONFIRMED SERIOUS DAMAGE AND
LOSS OF LIFE REPORTED REF (B).

3. DOS SANTOS TOLD ZETTERBERG THAT FIRST PRIORITY IS RESCUE OF STRANDED POPULATION. THERE IS A PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT RESCUE TEAM STANDING BY WHICH MAY BE CALLED ON TO HELP IN THIS OPERATION. OTHER IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARE TRANSPORT OF FOOD AND SUPPLIES TO THE AREA AND REPLENISHMENT OF STOCKS OF FOOD AND NECESSITIES IF VICTIMS ARE UNABLE TO GO BACK TO THEIR HOMES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REF (A) REQUEST CLARIFICATION OF AMBASSADORS AUTHORITY TO COMMIT DOLS. 25,000 FOR DISASTER RELIEF PURPOSES. SINCE APPEAL HAS NOW BEEN MADE. EMBASSY REQUESTS DEFINITIVE RESPONSE ASAP. IN LOOKING AHEAD. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT COMMENT ON CAPABILITY OF USG TO RESPOND TO POSSIBLE FUTURE GPRM REQUEST FOR HELICOPTERS LIGHT PLANES OR CARGO AIRCRAFT, FOR USE IN RESCUE AND SUPPLY OF FLOOD VICTIMS. DE PREE UNQUOTE COOPER

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Message Attributes

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